

**VICTIM/WITNESS ASSISTANCE PROGRAM**  
**Component: 50.20.101, 40.20.101, 50.20.451, 40.20.451, 40.20.161**

**PROGRAM OVERVIEW**

The Victim/Witness (V/W) Assistance Program is designed to provide comprehensive services to assist victims/witnesses of all types of violent crime pursuant to California Penal Code §13835 in each of California's 58 counties. Of the 58 Victim/Witness Assistance Centers, 47 projects are in District Attorney's Offices, 7 in Probation Departments, 4 in community-based organizations, and one in a county office.

These services include crisis intervention, emergency assistance, resource and referral assistance, direct counseling, victim of crime claims, property return, orientation to the criminal justice system, court escort, training for criminal justice agencies, public presentations, case status/disposition, notification of family, friends, and employers, and restitution.

Pursuant to the Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) statistical information requirements, it is important to note **only** the numbers of victims served are reported and the number of services counted **once**. For example, while a court accompaniment may occur 10 times during the course of a trial, VOCA counts that as **one court accompaniment** therefore services provided to victims are significantly underrepresented in the following statistical information.

**FUNDS AWARDED**

<u>Fiscal Year</u>	<u>Types of Funding</u>	<u>Total Funding</u>
FY 2008/09	Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) FFY 2008	\$ 6,715,393
	Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) FFY 2007	\$ 416,563
	Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) FFY 2006	\$ 542,185
	Victim/Witness Assistance (VWA) FFY 2008	\$ 10,811,513
FY 2009/10	Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) FFY 2009	\$ 8,206,693
	Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) FFY 2008	\$ 497,876
	Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) FFY 2007	\$ 94,625
	Victim/Witness Assistance (VWA) FFY 2009	\$ 10,811,513
	Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) FFY 2009	\$ 374,906
FY 2010/11		Unknown

**2008/09 PERFORMANCE STATISTICS**

<u>161,882</u>	New victims of crime served*.
<u>6,712</u>	New witnesses of crime served*.
<u>71,509</u>	Crisis intervention services, in-person or telephone contact, provided to victims of crime.
<u>6,635</u>	Victims provided emergency assistance services, in response to a victim's immediate needs as a result of their victimization.

<u>47,793</u>	Resource and referral assistance services provided to victims, based on the victim's request or victim advocate's assessment.
<u>1,788</u>	Direct counseling services, in person or by telephone, provided to a crime victim. V/W Center staff makes referrals, if necessary, to other appropriate resources for client(s) having professional counseling needs. Direct Counseling/Therapy refers to intensive professional psychological and/or psychiatric treatment for individuals, couples and family members related to counseling to provide emotional support in crisis arising from the occurrence of crime. This includes the evaluation of mental health needs, as well as the actual psychotherapy.
<u>99,203</u>	Victims assisted in filing crime victim compensation claims.
<u>102,932</u>	Advocacy, support, and orientation to the criminal justice system provided to victims.
<u>26,102</u>	Victims provided information on the case and/or support/escort during court appearances or interviews with law enforcement and prosecution.
<u>597</u>	Presentations and training courses conducted for criminal justice agencies on V/W Center resources and the rights and needs of victims.
<u>994</u>	Public presentations and publicity provided by V/W Centers promoting awareness of available services for crime victims.
<u>104,474</u>	Victims provided case status/case disposition, upon request, as their case progressed through the criminal justice system.
<u>5,172</u>	Notification of family/friends provided by V/W Centers, upon request by victim, of the occurrence of a crime and the victim's condition as a result of the crime.
<u>702</u>	Employer notification/intervention services provided by V/W Centers, upon request from a victim.
<u>23,478</u>	Assistance given, upon the request of the victim, in obtaining restitution for the victim through the criminal justice system (imposition of the sentence).

\* New statistics for 2008/09 FY.

## **2009/10 PERFORMANCE STATISTICS**

Not Available

## **2010/11 PERFORMANCE STATISTICS**

Not Available